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Message Text

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14
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 AID-20

RSR-01 /101 W
---------- 127681
R 050500 Z JUL73
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5023
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
CINCPAC CAMP H H SMITH HAWAII
COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JAPAN
COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JAPAN

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD
E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PINT JA
SUBJECT: CONSERVATIVE- BACKED YOKOYAMA ELECTED MAYOR OF
YOKOSUKA JULY 1.

SUMMARY: KAZUO YOKOYAMA WON MAYORALTY ELECTION IN YOKOSUKA JULY 1 DEFEATING PROGRESSIVE KEI KIMURA BY 30,000 VOTE MARGIN. CONSERVATIVE ALSO ELECTED TO FILL VACANCY IN CITY ASSEMBLY.
END SUMMARY

1. IN NON- PARTISAN MAYORALTY ELECTION CONDUCTED BY CITY OF YOKOSUKA JULY 1 CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE KAZUO YOKOYAMA (AGE 58) DEFEATED PROGRESSIVE KEI KIMURA (AGE 50) BY WIDE MARGIN, 101,557 VOTES TO 70,861. VOTER TURNOUT WAS 68.71 PERCENT. YOKOYAMA WAS RECOMMENDED BY DSP AND SUPPORTED BY LDP, WHILE KIMURA WAS RECOMMENDED JOINTLY BY JSP AND JCP, AND SUPPORTED BY KOMEITO.

2. ELECTION WAS HELD TO FILL VACANCY CREATED BY RETIREMENT OF MASAYOSHI NAGANO AFER FOUR SUCCESSIVE TERMS
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(16 YEARS). NAGANO, WHO HAS COOPERATED GENEROUSLY WITH U. S. SIDE IN RESOLUTION OF NUMEROUS BASE ISSUES, HAS BEEN AFFILIATED WITH PROGRESSIVES THROUGHOUT CAREER AS MAYOR. THUS YOKOSUKA ELECTION RESULT
REDUCES NUMBER OF MAYORSHIPS HELD BY PROGRESSIVES IN KANAGAWA PREFECTURE BY ONE. HOWEVER, ALL OTHER MAJOR CITIES IN PREFECTURE (YOKOHAMA, KAWASAKI, KAMAKURA AND FUJISAWA) REMAIN IN PROGRESSIVE HANDS.

3. MAJOR CAMPAIGN DEBATE CENTERED AROUND NAVY BASE AT YOKOSUKA, WHICH SUPPORTS US NAVY SEVENTH FLEET, AND ARRIVAL THERE OF CARRIER MIDWAY ON EXTENDED DEPLOYMENT WHICH EXPECTED SOON. YOKOYAMA TOOK FLEXIBLE POSITION ON BASE ISSUE DURING CAMPAIGN, STATING AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH OBJECTIVE OF SEEKING COMPLETE RETURN TO JAPAN, BUT TEMPERING THIS WITH PRACTICAL

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO08442
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: CORE6
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730766/aaaajzqn.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 07 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <29-Nov-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980313
Subject: CONSERVATIVE- BACKED YOKOYAMA ELECTED MAYOR OF YOKOSUKA JULY 1.
TAGS: PINT, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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